Dear Committee Members:

SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY

EXHIBIT NO. 1

DATE: 3/11/13

BILL NO. HB 333

My name is Jonathan Martin. I am the owner of Fiv
Bakery in Great Falls. Please pardon my not being a
hearing, but I am in the process of getting a second
have a television interview at 9 a.m. on the hearing
with this legislation started last summer. My busine
Great Falls Farmers' Market every year since 2006. As we set up for the first market last year the county health officials came around and notified all the vendors that we would no longer be permitted to sell coffee or tea. I asked them the reason and they said that it had come down from the state. The next week I contacted Helena regarding the reason for this new restriction since, in the past, we had been permitted to sell these items. I was told that there had been several requests to sell potentially hazardous products at farmers' markets in Montana. As a result of these requests, they decided that they should review the exceptions list and enforce it more strictly. I was told that they in no way considered coffee or tea as potentially hazardous, but that they felt they should enforce the law uniformly. They said that there were two simple solutions to the vendors' dilemma. First, they said our county sanitarian had the authority to issue temporary licenses for farmers' market vendors; and second, we could get coffee and tea added to the exceptions list.

I first went to our city/county health officials, but was notified that they no longer offered those licenses. No special reason. They just decided they were not going to do it anymore. So, after the election, I contacted several of our county legislators. Representative Price was kind enough to respond quickly and have the legislation drafted.

The sale of coffee at our market does not really affect my business (in fact, I gave coffee away for some time until I was told that I could not do that either); but several of the vendors were dramatically affected, as their receipts depended to a greater extent of coffee sales. You would be doing a great service to Farmers' Markets across Montana and helping to keep the "flavor" of our markets by passing this legislation. I urge you to do so and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Martin

Dear Committee Members:

My name is Jonathan Martin. I am the owner of Five Loaves Coffee .ouse & Bakery in Great Falls. Please pardon my not being able to attend the hearing, but I am in the process of getting a second shop opened here and have a television interview at 9 a.m. on the hearing date. My involvement with this legislation started last summer. My business has had a booth at our Great Falls Farmers' Market every year since 2006. As we set up for the first market last year the county health officials came around and notified all the vendors that we would no longer be permitted to sell coffee or tea. I asked them the reason and they said that it had come down from the state. The next week I contacted Helena regarding the reason for this new restriction since, in the past, we had been permitted to sell these items. I was told that there had been several requests to sell potentially hazardous products at farmers' markets in Montana. As a result of these requests, they decided that they should review the exceptions list and enforce it more strictly. I was told that they in no way considered coffee or tea as potentially hazardous, but that they felt they should enforce the law uniformly. They said that there were two simple solutions to the vendors' dilemma. First, they said our county sanitarian had the authority to issue temporary licenses for farmers' market vendors; and second, we could get coffee and tea added to the exceptions list.

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